

REMARKS

In an Office Action dated February 25, 2008, Claims 4 - 7, 10 - 14, 17 - 20, and 22 are allowed; claims 1 - 3, 15, 16, 21, 23, and 24 are rejected. Claims 1 - 3, 15, 16, and 21 have been cancelled from the present application without prejudice to re-filing in a continuation application. Claims 4 - 7, 10 - 14, 17 - 20, and 22 - 24 are currently pending. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 4 - 7, 10 - 14, 17 - 20, and 22.

Applicants submit a supplemental IDS in part in order to present the Miller et al reference disclosed in the International Search Report and not considered by the Examiner. Applicants understand that copies of references cited in the ISR have been supplied to the U.S. Patent office by the International Bureau, but a copy is provided herewith for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants disclose co-pending application Nos. 10/517,966 and 10/490,186, now U.S. Patent No. 7,145,024.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sham et al. (WO 97/21683). Claims 15 and 16 were cancelled from the present application without prejudice to re-filing in a continuation application. Therefore, the rejection is moot as to claims 15 and 16.

35 U.S.C. § 103

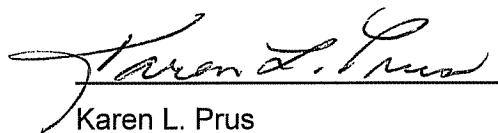
Claims 1 - 3, 21 and 23 - 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hale et al. in view of Sham et al. Claims 1 - 3 and 21 were cancelled from the present application without prejudice to re-filing in a continuation application. Therefore, the rejection is moot as to claims 1 - 3 and 21. Claims 23 and 24 were amended to depend from allowed claim 4. Support for the amendment to claims 23 and 24 may be found in the specification at pages 6 - 7. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 23 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. An early consideration and notice of allowance are earnestly solicited.

Applicants hereby request a 2-month extension of time to extend the response period up to and including July 25, 2008. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees and any other fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1392.

Respectfully submitted,

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